REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	25 May 1996
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Hustler White
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Bruce LaBruce, Rick Castro
Producer:	Not Stated
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Video Recording VHS/PAL
Country of Origin:	USA
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Hustler White	Running time:	76.55
Trailers:	SMPTE Notice	Running time:	0.03
	Film Count down / lead-in		0.08
	Blank Screen		0.12
		Total Running time:	77.18

Excision/Alteration: No

Reasons(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the publication is used for the purpose of screening at the second Wellington Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, OUT Takes 96, (screening dates 10-22 May 1996) or for the purpose of film studies education in tertiary institutions,

AND

If the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Display conditions:

Nil.

Descriptive Note:

Contains violence and sex scenes.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on 03 May 1996

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The feature *Hustler White* is an approximately one and a quarter hour exploration of a particular gay male lifestyle in contemporary USA. As well as actors, the producer has employed actual “hustlers” from the Santa Monica Boulevard area, thereby producing authentic and representative documentary. The sometimes shocking and discomforting imagery is graphic but does not constitute the greater part of the feature. This material is located in a comic dramatisation of sex and romance presented with ironic and witty dialogue and cleverly matched music. The overall tone of the publication is mostly humourous, with some shocking scenes containing violent or cruel acts. The sexual and controversial nature of the contents would not be suitable for young persons, or for a wide adult audience that does not have a specific interest in the practices depicted. While the publication does not appear to promote or support activities presented, neither does it explicitly examine dangers associated with a number of the practices depicted. The publication is considered to have artistic, social and cultural merits, and is intended for viewing by an audience likely to have some understanding of the material and its contexts.

Weighing these factors, the Office considers that the unrestricted availability of the publication would likely be injurious to the public good.

The Classification Office therefore classifies the publication titled *Hustler White*, presented as a video recording for preview but to be screened in 35mm film, as

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